

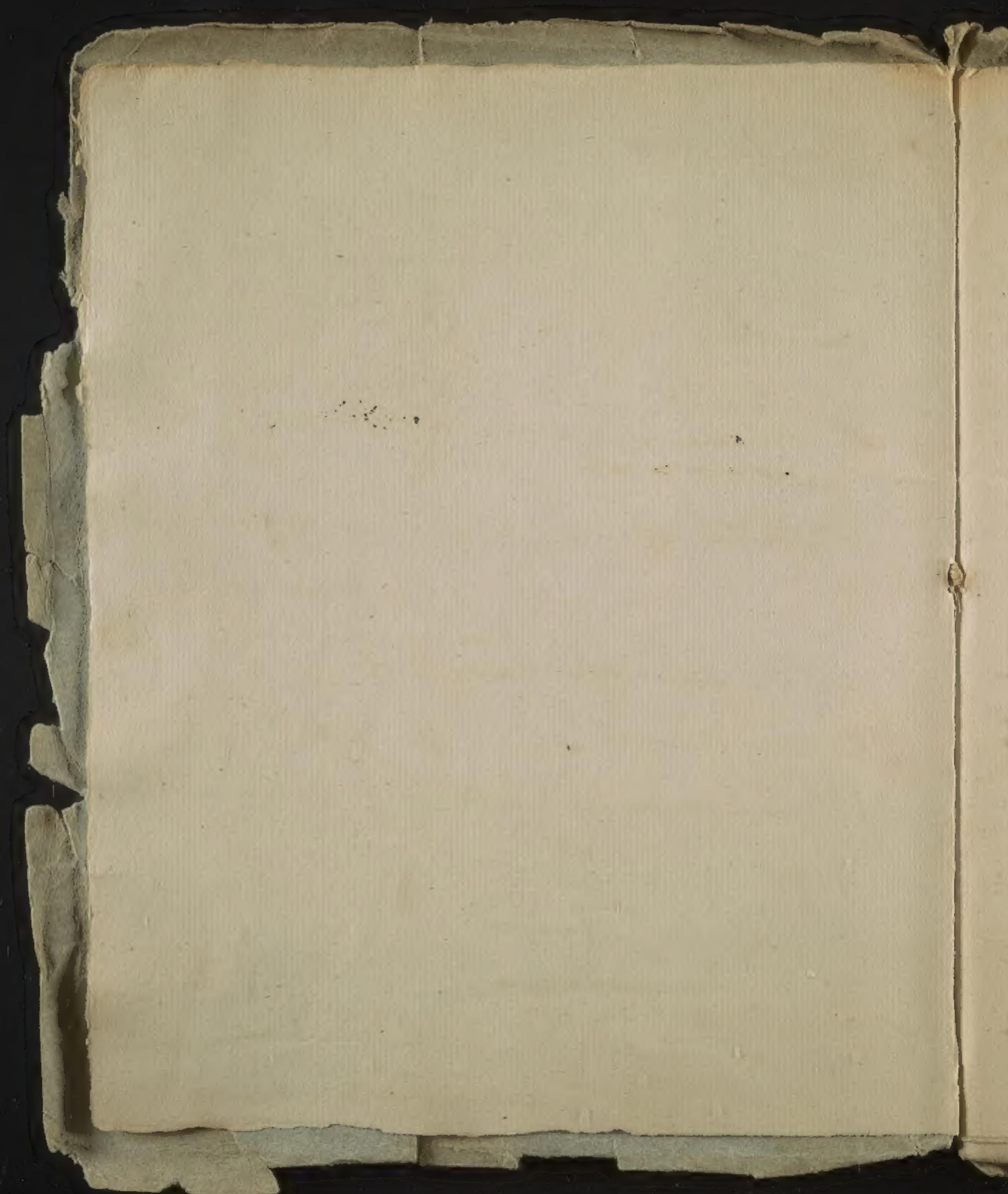
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Introductory Lecture
on the
certainty of
medicine.

Delivered nov² 2nd 1795.

& nov²⁸th 1798

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Gentlemen /

The Uncertainty of medicine
~~has been~~ is a very common subject of
complaint. It has been propagated
by the enemies of our profession,
by ~~Philosophers~~, and in many instances
has been admitted by Physicians. The
design of the present lecture is to in-
quire ~~into the truth of~~ how far the complaint
is founded in truth, and to shew that it originates
in ~~ignorance~~ a want of a due conception
of the extent & usefulness of the science
of medicine.

In speaking upon this subject
we are first led to ^{remark} ~~mention~~ that
immense ^{number of truths} ~~obstacles which~~

of all the different states of
fever, I shall mention in this
place, ~~only~~^{but two} of them which
when left to themselves generally
prove fatal, but which in 99
cases of out an 100 yield to medi-
cine. These are the pleurisy - the
Dysentery & the intermitting fever.

discovered & established
have been ~~made~~ⁱⁿ in all the collateral
branches of medicine, particularly
in Anatomy, Chemistry, Botany &
the *materia medica*. ~~This must be admitted.~~

But as the objections to the certain-
ty of medicine are aimed chiefly to
the limited state of our knowledge
^{exclusive of Surgery,} of the art of healing, I shall con-
fine myself to a short detail of
the diseases in which medicine af-
fords certain & almost universal
relief. —

These are ~~Fever~~ of all kinds. ~~that~~
~~it will be said before~~ I know it well
be said here that fevers are often
fatal. This ~~cannot~~ must happen
while so many circumstances ~~are~~

Disease ~~deadly~~^{fatal} in every case,
in the universal and the Scourge of
the reproach of medicine now ^{"treats the body of"}
~~resolution of it embraces,~~ ^{"it"} yields
~~Dread~~^{Dread} in every case to memory.

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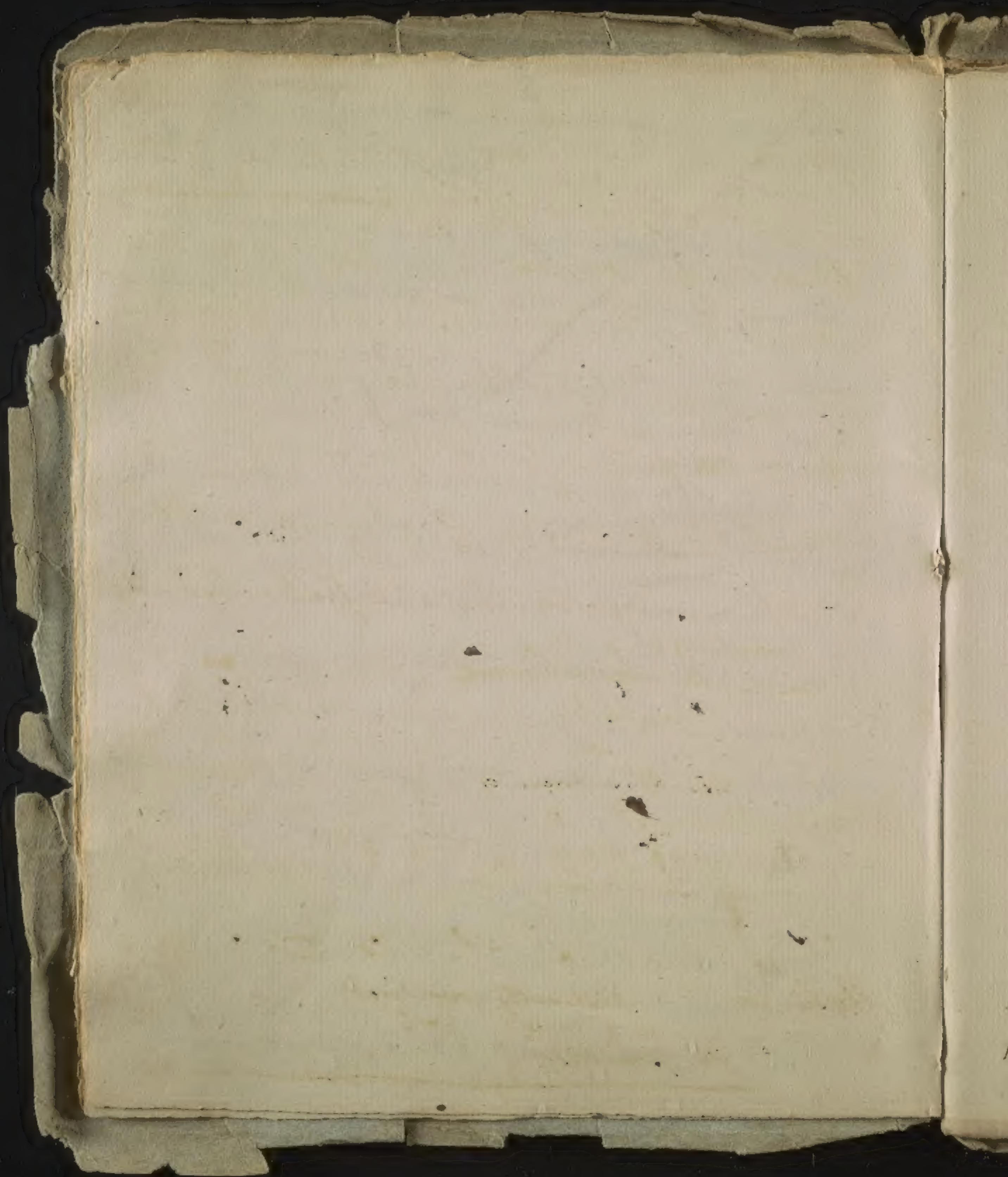
from the ignorance & fears ^{of poverty} of patients
oppose regular & just practice, but
where these circumstances do not
occur, fevers are as much under
the command of medicine as the
itch, or the small pox.

2 of the diseases which affect the
nervous ^{nervous} system, madness, the Hysteria,
the Hippocratisis, and the lock'd
Jaw, and several other convulsive
affections are all more or less subject
to medicine when it is applied in their recent
State.

4 Cutaneous diseases yield in almost
every instance to the power of medicine.

3rd Hemorrhage~~s~~
Dropsies in every part of the body
have been ~~are~~ daily prevented, or cured.

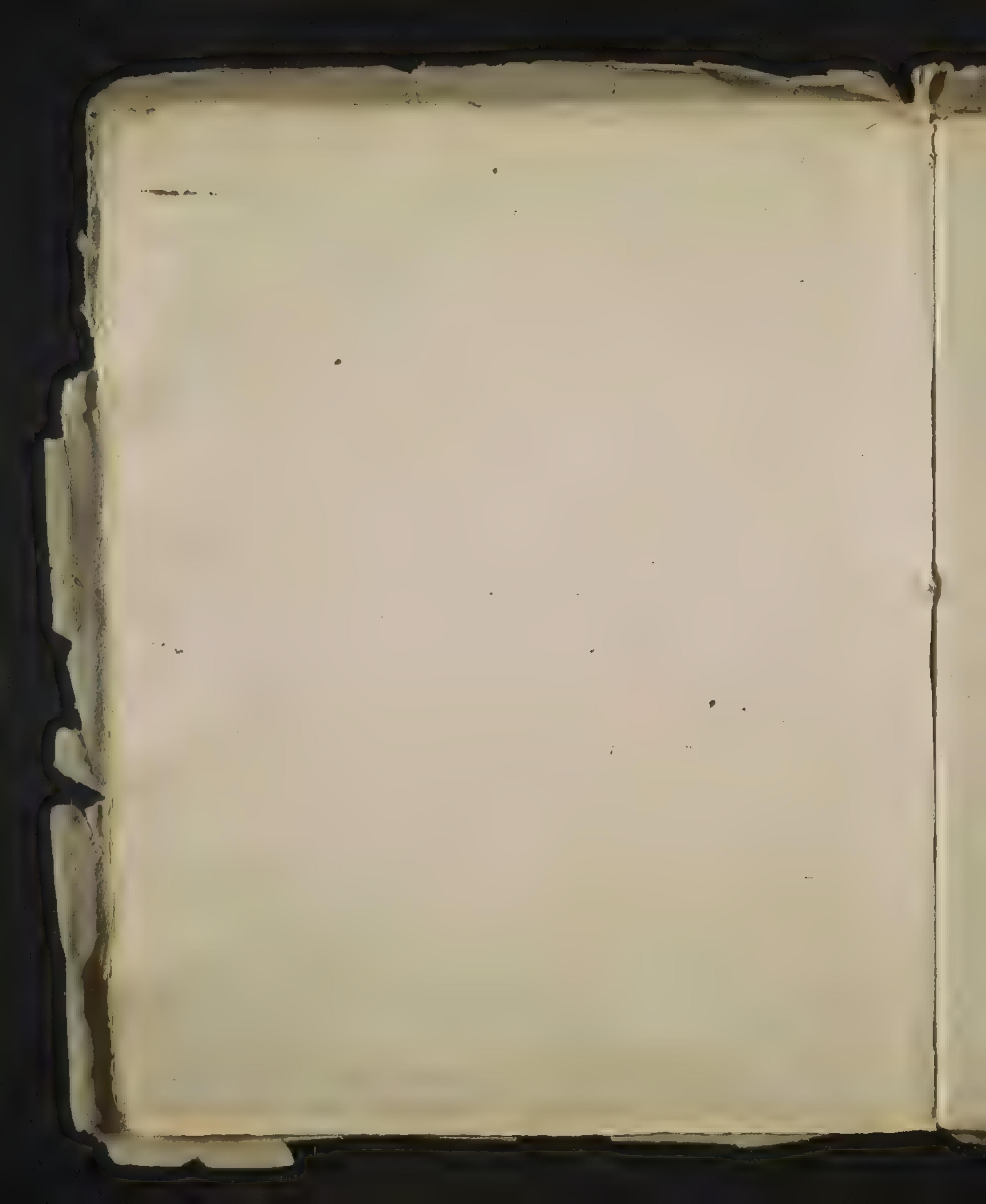
~~The hand book~~ It is true the



some of 4

practice in those diseases, is not uniformly successful. ~~the ignorant~~
But the fault so here lies with Physicians, & not in the science of medicine.
It is no objection to the certainty
and usefulness of the compass,
that the natives of Kamtschatka
still navigate their vessels by ~~long~~
~~coasting,~~ ~~giving~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~house~~, nor does the
used by ~~in writing~~ in writing
character of the Chinese call in
the advantages of
Question, the summary mode of
conveying ideas ^{means of} by ~~fixing~~ ~~letters~~ by ^{an} alphabet.

I contend for the certainty of
the science abstractly considered
of Medicine, & not for the certainty
of that knowledge which of the



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proficiency as it ^{is} ~~is~~ pursued by many
Physicians. Many things concur
to prevent the ~~advantages of the~~
discoveries which have ^{been} made in
medicine from becoming generally
useful; such particularly as
the want of reading & observations
among Physicians, and an ~~indis-~~
~~unwillingness~~ ^{new and unpopular} ~~position~~ to adopt, remedies which
~~are recommended by~~ ^{more} introduced into practice
~~whereas~~ ⁱⁿ ~~it~~ they are unwilling
~~to do business.~~ But this does
not militate against the certainty
of medicine, any more than

✓ The certainty of medicine is often limited by the want of fidelity or punctuality in patients in complying with the prescriptions of their physicians, & infidelity seasons by the inability of physicians in sickly seasons to visit their patients ^{at} those hours in which alone their prescriptions can be applied with success. — The mortality prevalence of error in medicine ^{moreover} ~~in cities~~ sometimes prevents ~~counting often affects the influence~~ & successful practice in a city or country, for as ~~men~~ of various minds often diffuse rays of

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a man's shutting his eyes at noon day militates against the
the arguments in favor of the ex-
-istence of light. — But further,
again

It is said that ~~pride~~ by the
enemies of ~~medicine~~, that Surgery
more & therefore mischievous
is a certain in the ~~silifite~~ affords
that medicine. This Opinion is
general, but a little reflection
will show that it is not just.

~~The objects of Surgery compared
with those of medicine are
in the ratio of one to twenty;~~
~~of course they~~ How different is

knowledge into sick rooms which
they are not permitted to enter,
so physicians of ^{a contrary character,}
so physicians of ~~dark~~ ^{and} ~~secrets~~ often
spread their errors by means of their
patients ~~or pupils~~ into rooms,
where they defeat the best concerted
plans of cure, & thus lessen the
~~success & credit~~
~~apparent certainty~~ of medicine.

~~The mortality produced by all
these causes does not detract from
the certainty of medicine, for it be-
longs to the perfection of our science
to predict death, from the neglect of
proper remedies applied in time,
however, as much as it
does to cure diseases! —~~

Consultations are a further source

the issue of amputations or cutting
for the stone, to inoculation for
the small pox? & how far are
subject to the discourses which ren-
der the former operations necessary
to save life; whereas the small
pox affects the whole human
Race; & according to some writers
destroys a 6th part of all who are
sick'd with it in the natural
way. But surgery is not an
independant Art. It borrows
much of its certainty & useful-
ness from medicine, for how

our profession.

of the uncertainty of ~~medicines~~ the boldness in practice which is inspired
by the union of reason and experience,
is often frustrated by the mechanical
formalities of an old, and or by the
timidity ~~to~~ teaching of a young physician,
by which means medicine is often rob-
bed of its merited & well earned honors.
But there ^{are} frequently two, or more methods
of curing the same disease. now in
consultations between physicians who
have been in the habit of curing the
same disease by different remedies, no
fixed plan of cure is adopted, & the patient
dies, under a half way practice between
two methods, either of which might
have cured him, had it been pursued

I Bluding, Diet
particularly from & Banks, wine
and opium.

I have said that the uncertainty
of medicine has sometimes been
admitted by Physicians. It may
be useful in this place to inquire
into the causes of this seeming
caution in the members of our
profession. It appears to originate
in Indolence, or a disposition too
torpid to enquire into the extent
and certainty of the principles
of medicine. ~~The body in this~~
~~case encroaches upon the~~

to its full extent. The mortality of
diseases, produced by all these causes,
does not detract from the certainty
of medicine, for it belongs to the
perfection of our science, to predict
death with certainty from the
neglect, or misapplication of remedies,
as much it does to cure diseases.

It has been said that there is
no certainty in the operation of
medicines. This assertion is founded
upon a superficial view of the
power of the medicines, & an ignorance
of the laws of the Animal Economy.
- I grant that ~~genuine~~ Ipecacuanha
will not always excite a vomiting,
nor ^{unibolmly} Salap, discharge the contents of the

P: 9

2^d A dissertation respecting the practice
in medicine, and ~~of~~^{for} eminent Physicians
has contributed very much to ~~the success~~ⁱⁿ
the attainment of ~~profess~~~~confidence~~ⁱⁿ the certainty of
medicines. There are few diseases more
easily explained, or more certainly cured,
than the internal dryness of the brain
but it is generally considered as incurable
^{only} because Dr Cullen has not clapped it
among inflammatory diseases, and
because Dr Monroe has declared that
he never cured a case of it in his
life. —

mind, & abstracts from it all
its natural activity). for

3^d Incapacity is another source
of scepticism in medicine. men
deny the existence of truths which
they are unable to comprehend.

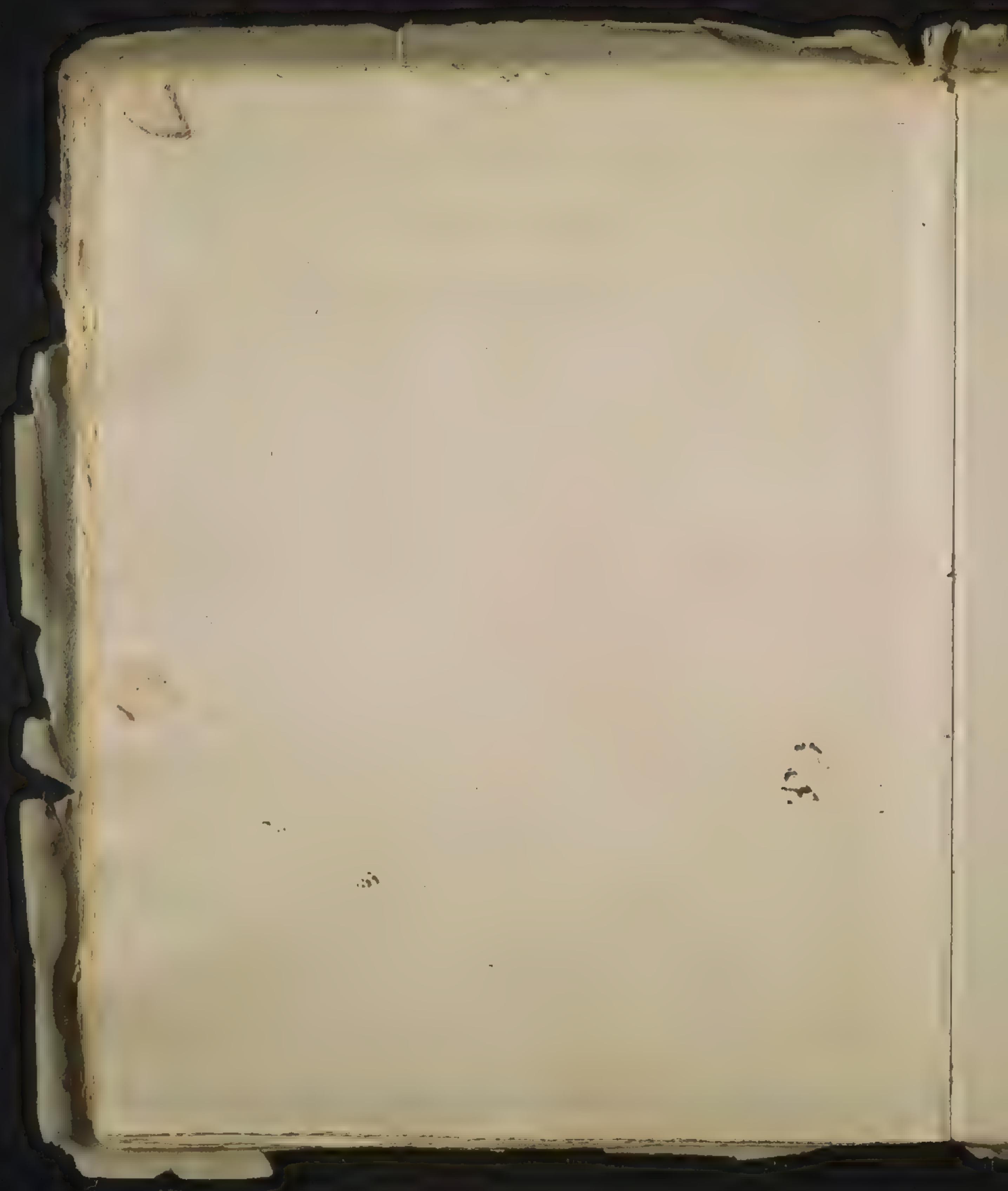
4th Envy in the ^{2d} place shuts the
mind up against ~~most~~^{the} the truths
of medicine, more especially when
discoveries are made in it by persons
who are competitors for business
or fame.

5th Vanity has a large share of
influence in disposing Physicians

bowels, but this does not invalidate
the certainty of their characters
of medicines, ^{but if} we are able to
account for the failure of their
~~till issue all cases that~~ ^{refute}
operation, ~~is all~~ we ~~destroy~~ the
objection to the ~~certainty~~ of
their characters as medicines. ^{now} We
know that ~~an~~ inflammation, ^{and} or
congestion in the brain impart
a torpor to the Stomach & alimentary
canal, and this knowledge consti-
tutes a part of the certainty of
medicine for which I am contending.
Thus a knowledge of the variations of
the ~~and~~ magnetic needle in certain lati-
tudes constitutes a part of the perfection
of the science of navigation. — go back to p. 6.

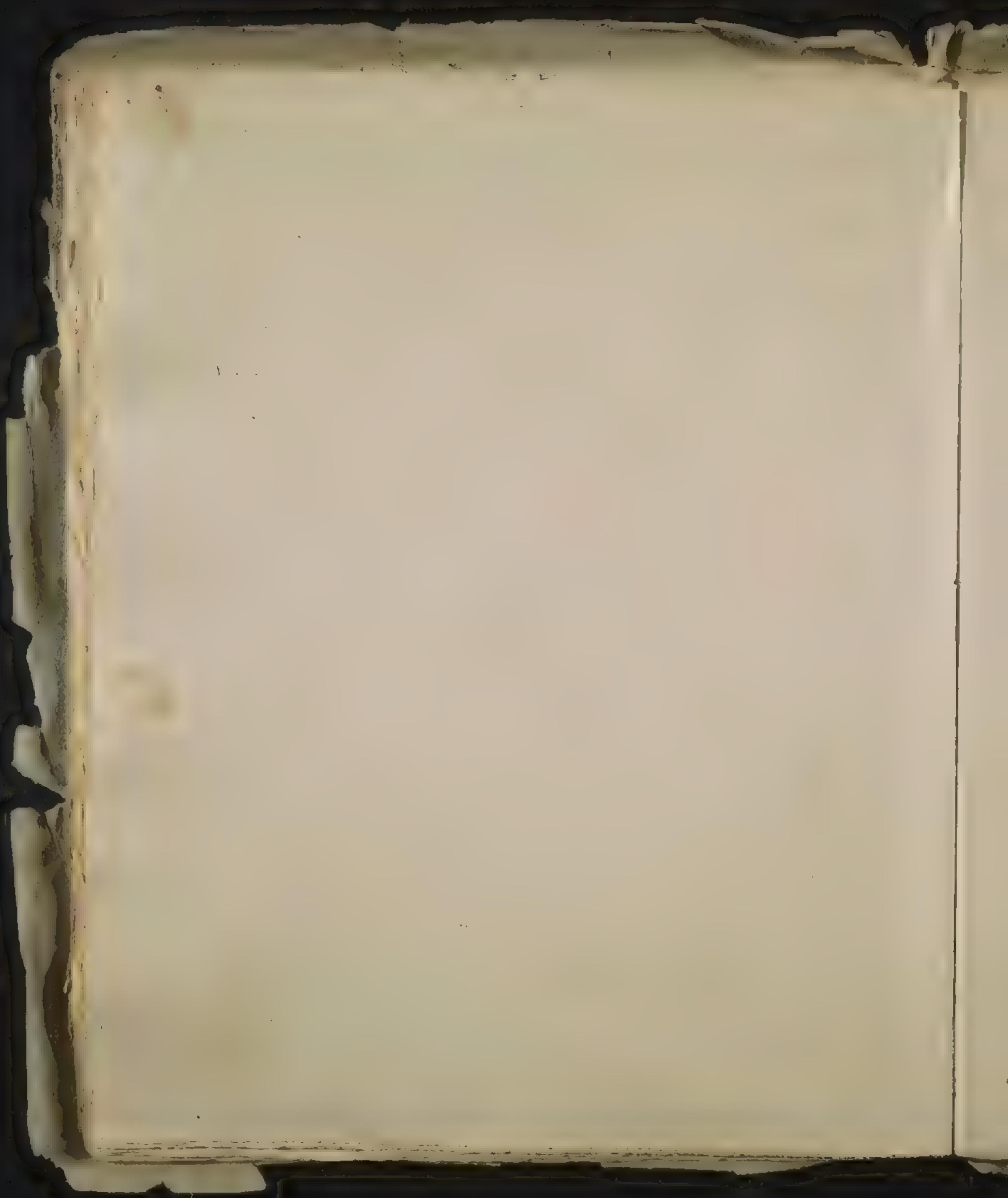
to deny the certainty of medicine.
~~or~~ This Scepticism in
 medicine presupposes that a physician
 has examined the ~~evidences~~ arguments in
 favor of certain
 Opinions, and that his decision
 is founded upon a defect of evidence
 to support them. Now this being
 seldom the case, the decision is
 should by no means operate against the certainty of medicine.
~~an act of imposture equally~~
~~characteristic~~
~~declaratory of vanity & impudence.~~

~~I know some~~ Did these
 radical Sceptics when they
 speak of the uncertainty of
 medicine, confess themselves



~~To the first person of the singular
number, they had would be more
excusable, but when they include
the whole nofision by dubasing
as they often do upon difficult
subjects that "we know no-
thing about them" they ~~discover~~
~~a~~ ^{add to} ~~discover~~ their variety a large share
of impudent &~~

~~to~~ ^{other} source of scepticism is medicine
is derived from infidelity ⁱⁿ religion.
— men who have renounced the
endowments of their reason & sensu-
ality upon moral & theological subjects,
and cannot be consistent upon



without denying this evidence
upon medical subjects. This
Scepticism in medicine is extremely
flattering to the Sceptics in Religion
~~and hence we find scientific physi-~~
~~cians are often prepared by these~~

- ~~say~~ It is natural for such persons
to conclude that if, in a science ^{all} to
whose facts are obvious to our
senses, there is ~~so~~ no certainty;
equal or greater uncertainty
must hang over the doctrines

of Christianity —

Having pointed out the sources
~~from~~ of scepticism so impulsive
of Scepticism in medicine, it will
among Physicians, I shall only



be authorized to expect the most
 impudent ~~treachery~~. The most obse-
 nuntion ^{one of its most serious} effects,
 and that is the most palpable
fraud. With what face does
 a Physician charge for services
 which he has rendered at random
 to his patients? Why does not
 the ^{of a Physician} hand, tremble in writing
 a prescription for a disease
 the cause of which he confesses himself to
 be ignorant? And with what
 a Physician charges for services
 which he has rendered at ran-
 dom to his patients? Should
 we ~~suspicion~~ ^{an astute} think an

V John ~~had~~^{one} Clergyman in
one of the West India Islands ~~who~~
was sent for, from a card table to
visit one of his parishioners who
was dying, & who it was told him
was in great distress about his
future state. The Clergyman visited
him, and upon returning to his
seat at the card table, was astonished
by one of the company how he had
left his the dying man. He said
"quite happy" for he ^{had} removed all
his fears in a moment by letting
him into the secret." — "What secret"
said the gentleman — "why — that there
is no future state" answered the Clergyman,

Artificer after ¹⁴ failing in erecting
a piece of machinery
~~a house~~, tell his employer,
that he knows demand paymen
till his employer that he was
ignorant of the business he had
undertaken, ~~would be~~ what
should we think of him? would
be we justify an extravagant charge
for his labor, or would we not
rather approve of that practice
of a Court, which should compel
punish him as an impostor
by compelling him to make
restitution "for the money he
had ignorantly expended." ✓
Let the legislator in making act

and that religion was all nothing but
a fable. Equally criminal is that
Physician who ~~denies the certainty~~
~~of medicine~~ of medicine, and denies
its certainty in most of ~~the~~ the dis-
cases which come under his notice.

I have heard of
extensive business & reputation, to all whom
all that has been said upon the causes
of scepticism in medicine, that have
been enumerated, applied in the
most extensive manner. His
reputation This man's education
was originally very slender, and
his reading extremely limited. His
~~visits to his patients were short, &~~
~~generally all subjects were~~

homoeopathy. If he cannot attain
 to principles in it, let him resign
 the profession. He is at
~~to speculative~~ ~~Speculative~~ ~~Sceptical~~
 may be not an honest man,
 but a ~~Physician~~ physician who exercises
 the profession for his subsistence
 is as much an impostor as a
 person who exercises the functions
 of a priest without believing
 in the principles of Christianity].
 We have already attained to
 certainty in at least 9 diseases out
 of ~~ten~~ ten. But this remnant
 of paineth the dominion of death

more agreeable to him than
medicine. He hurried from sick
rooms to public dinners, and
teaparties, where he usually
spent four or five hours of every
day, and yet with this ~~than~~
~~he~~, ~~do~~ divided ~~upon~~ all subjects of
~~controversy~~ he maintained ~~from~~
~~the~~ In all companies he spoke
with contempt of the profession of
medicine - and laughed at every
attempt to apply the reason to
it. And yet with this character,
he ~~maintained~~ governed ^{for many years} the
medical
Opinions & practice of the city in
which he lived: a ~~Brother~~ Impostor

over the human body, shall not al-
ways continue. Absolute certainty
I believe
is attainable in medicine. [Yes - there
does not exist a disease for which
there does not exist a remedy. -

This must be true, as God would
not be ~~kind as~~ wise, ~~kind as~~ good &
powerful or good.

Hear this ye friends & Benefactors
of mankind, who have sigh'd in
secret over the pain & misery which
diseases ~~have~~ produce in our world.
- They this misery shall have an end.

~~Death shall be~~ The empire of death
by means of disease shall shall
one day be limited, & old age shall

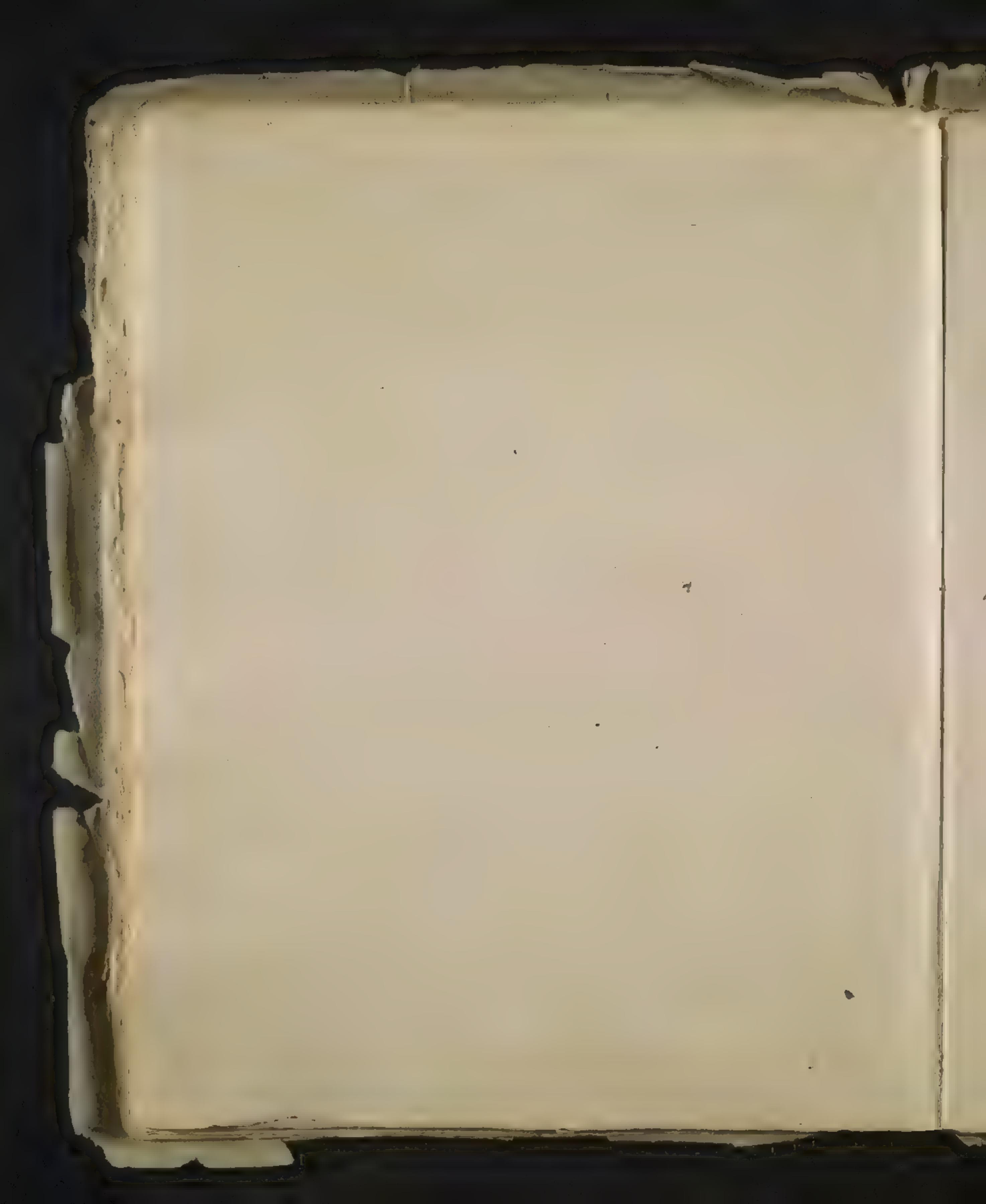
in medicine pronounced his Elegium
when he died, by declaring "that
he was the greatest physician
that ever lived, for that he knew
he acknowledged the uncertainty of his
profession": —

✓ will moreover be able by
means of this knowledge to be
~~able to prefer~~
~~able to distinguish real physicians~~
rational & philosophical physicians,
& to prefer them to
~~to~~ Quacks and Impostors.

only 17
finally be the outlet of human life.

This ^{Certainty} ~~perfection~~ in the science of medicine ^{probably} I believe will be brought about in the following ways. —

- 1 ~~The~~ A knowledge of ~~and~~ the principles of medicine will become so general that the people at large by knowing, will avoid the remote, predisposing & exciting causes of diseases. They
- 2 The principles & power operations of Chemistry will be so enlarged, as to enable mankind by ~~best~~ ^{victor} to destroy the active qualities of the remote causes of disease by ~~so~~ those powerful



agents - heat & mixture. — already has Chemistry taught us many things upon this subject. It has taught us that fire will destroy the contagion of the small, and water the ~~microscopic~~ & contagious and noxious ^{of the} plague & yellow fever. I have heard a gentleman of a philosophical character in London ridiculed for saying that he believed "the time would come when a man should be able to put his head in the fire without being burnt". I do not think there is or extravagant anything unphilosophical in

& knowledge it has been justly
said is power, and philosophy
is the engine of Art over na-
ture. — [Dr Mitchell, in a late
publication has suggested many
ingenious hints upon the subjects
of the gapes which may lead us
to the certain means of destroying
them, & thereby of exterminating
malignant & ~~contagious~~ ^{of a York} even pox.

the opinion. ~~that~~ we not see
men breath & ~~eat~~ at as usual
under water by means of the diving
bell? To breath & to ~~eat~~ under
water by means of a diving bell,
and to fly through the regions of
the air in a balloon, a ~~curious~~
ago would have been thought
equally improbable events a cen-

-tury ago. — I have long belie-
ved that the ~~first~~ prophecies ^{such of} <sub>of the Old & New testa-
ments</sub> as relate
to the ~~far~~ future changes in
the natural state of man,
and of our earth, will be brought
about by natural means.
There is to me therefore nothing

the catalogues of human evils.]

+ Laskle x. 19.

V³^{by} a Belief in the Unity of disease, and of
debility being the predisposing cause of all its
patients &
different forms will lead both physicians
to attack them in their forming state, at
which time they ^{generally} yield to the most
simple medicines. But where diseases come
on as some do, without the premonitory symp-
toms of debility, ~~the doctor~~ if we may judge from
There is reason to ~~hope~~ believe they may be cured
if we are permitted to judge ~~of what~~ from what
is passed ^{that which} of ~~what~~ is to come. go to p 22

improbable in that declaration
of our Saviors to his disciples, in
which he says "Behold, I give you
power to tread on serpents & scorpions
and all the power of the enemy, &
nothing shall by any means
hurt you" ^{the Doloration} whether it be viewed
by a philosophical, or a Christian
eye. ~~It~~ There can be no:
thing in the poison of serpents or
scorpions more destructive to life than
arsenic, and that deadly mineral
^{yet} we know
is rendered harmless by being com-
bined with sulphur.

~~V. H. Newbold. Those sage Xarp & Frank
bin is power say Lord Bacon
in Philosophy of the exprise of~~



and over empirical practice.

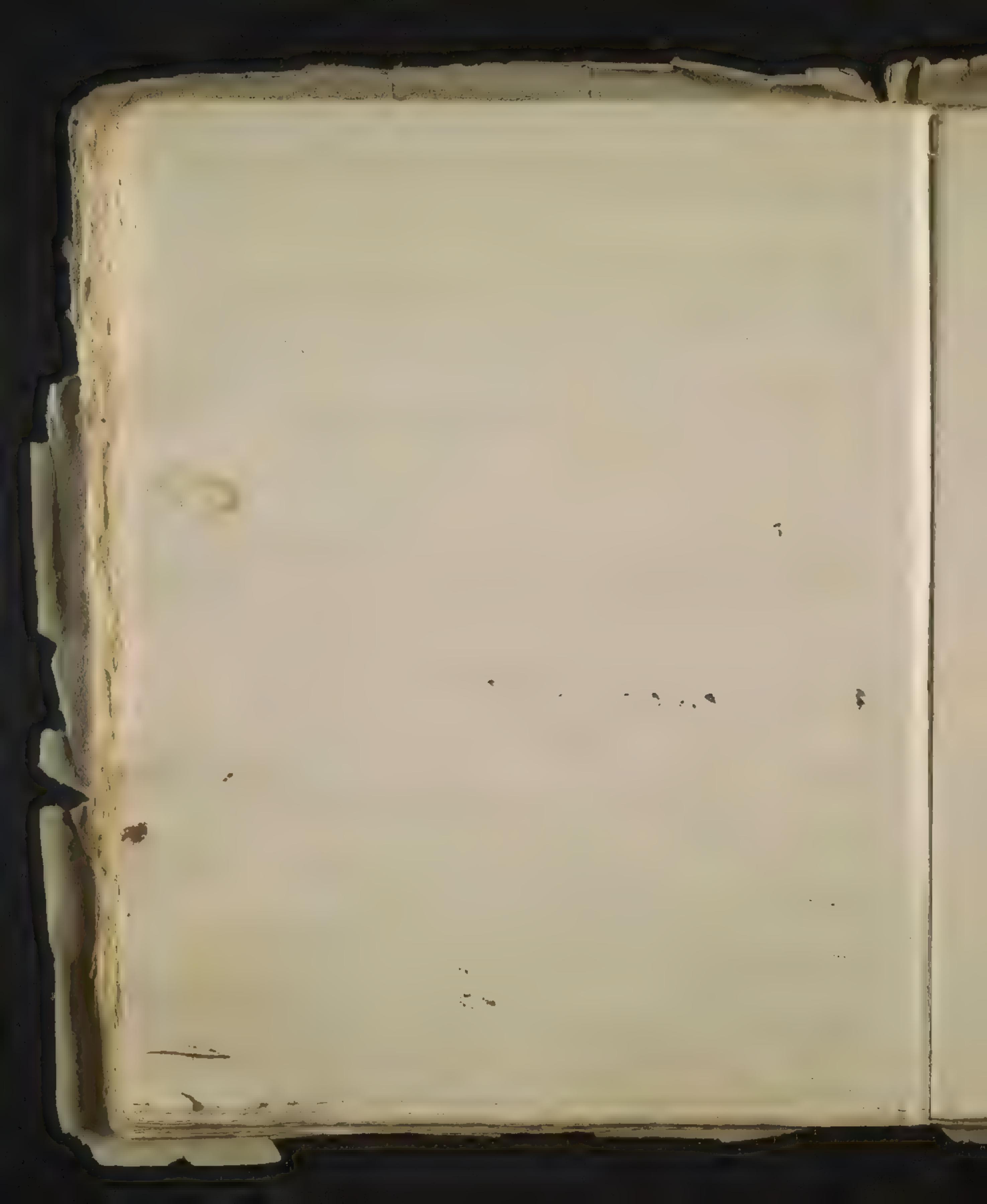
3 Diseases shall

The 3rd and last method in which medicine shall ~~be~~² brought to perfection will be, that diseases will in all cases yield to medicine.

Then the diseases which we can-

I have said
not cure, are very few compared with those which do cure, and

Now is this all, the diseases w:
still elude the skill of Physicians
are by no means so formidable,
as those which have been sub-
duced by them. The Epilepsy



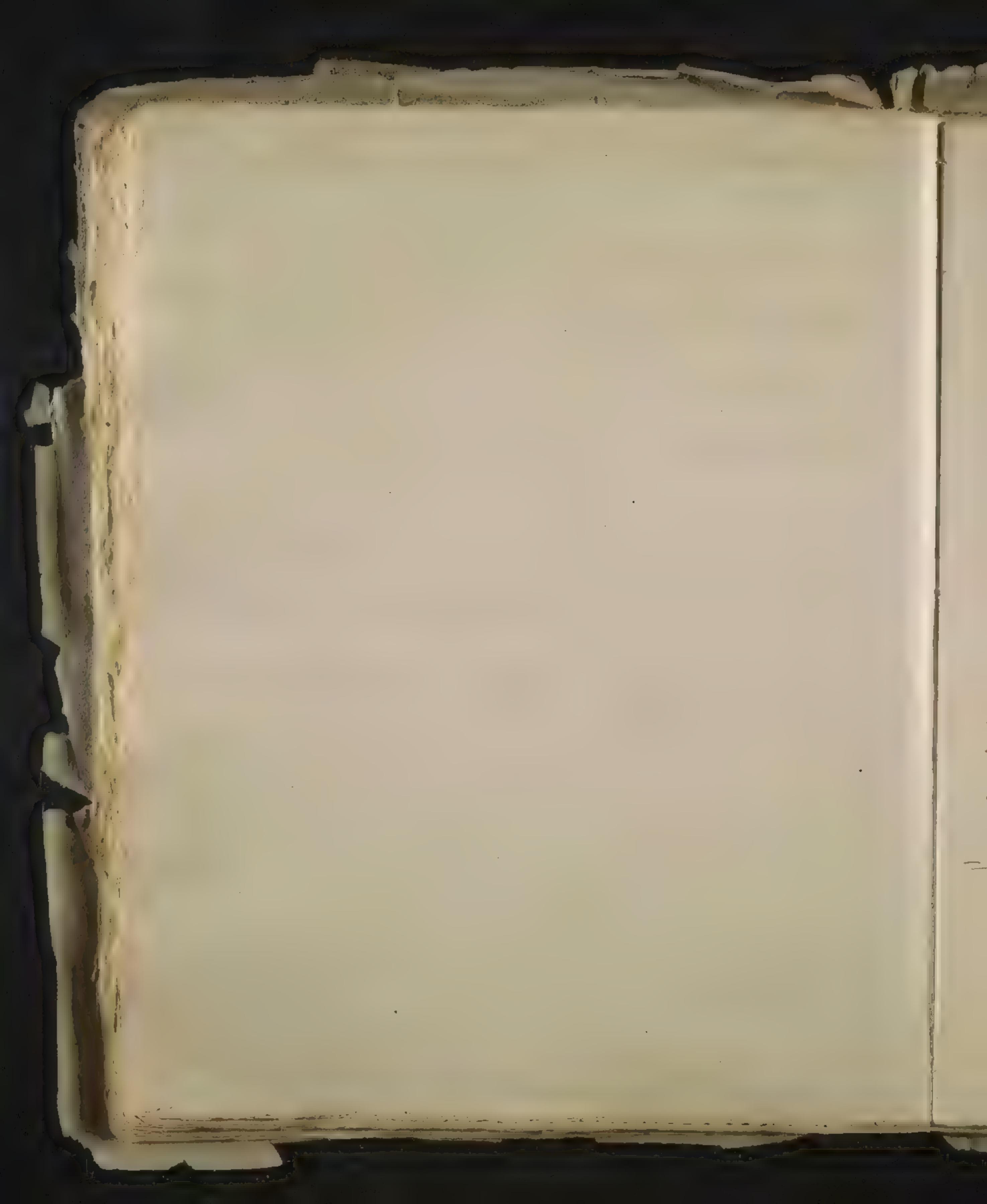
offers much less violence to the
 system than a yellow fever, and
 this disease we now know is
 daily caused by not only by
 physicians, but by the nurses,
 other persons ~~unacquainted~~^{much} with medicine,
 and ~~freely~~ ^{recklessly} ~~sug~~gested. Within the
 last twenty years the our faith
 & hopes up on this subject, receive
 great encouragement from
 the triumphs of medicine within
 the last twenty years. ^I know
~~that~~ ^{the} ~~men~~ ^{were} are, less mortal ^{now}
 than they were ³⁰ years ago.
 The doctor's care has caused to

in some measure to

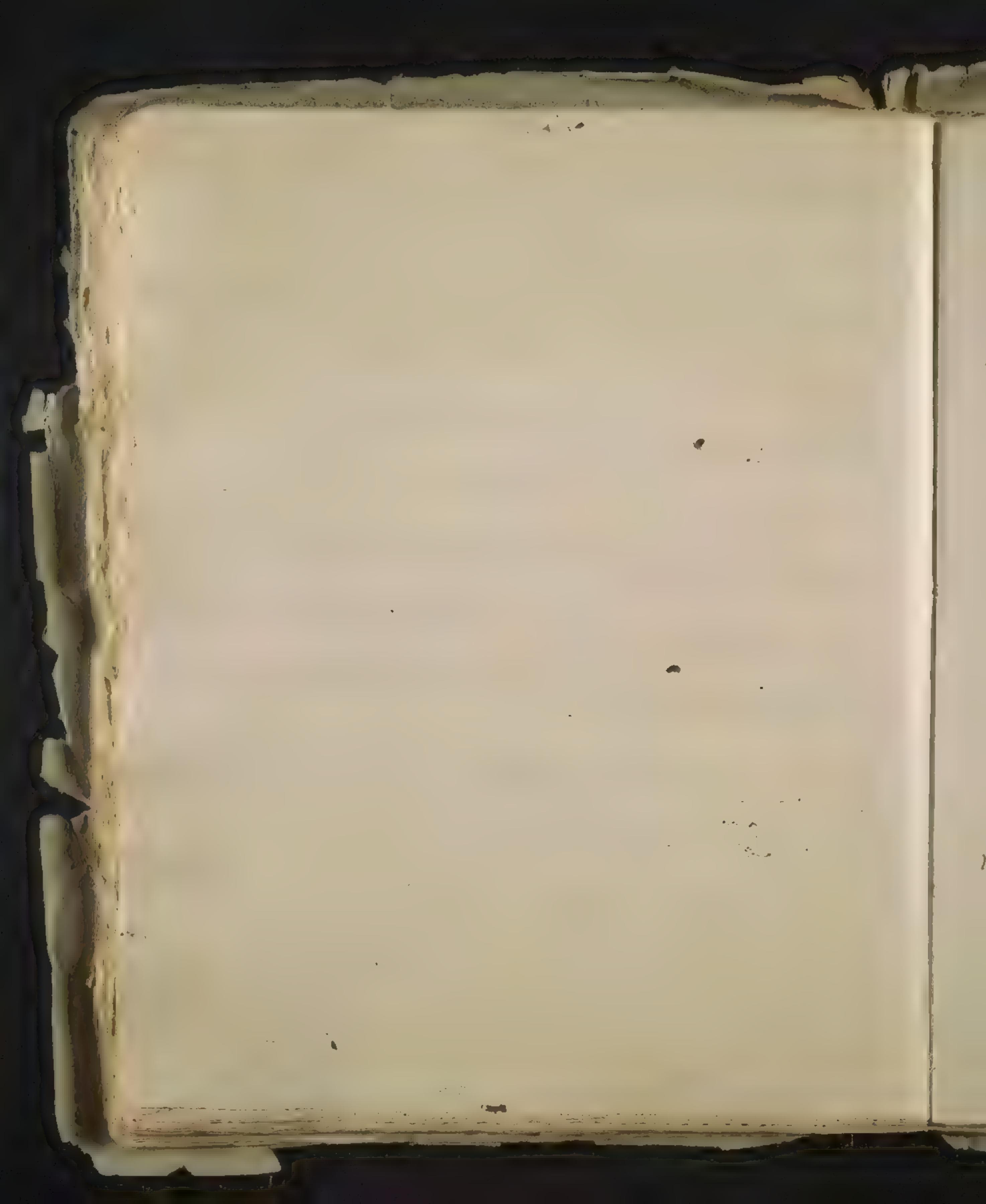
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be the terror of the planters in
the several those West India
Islands in which the various
remedies have been adopted.

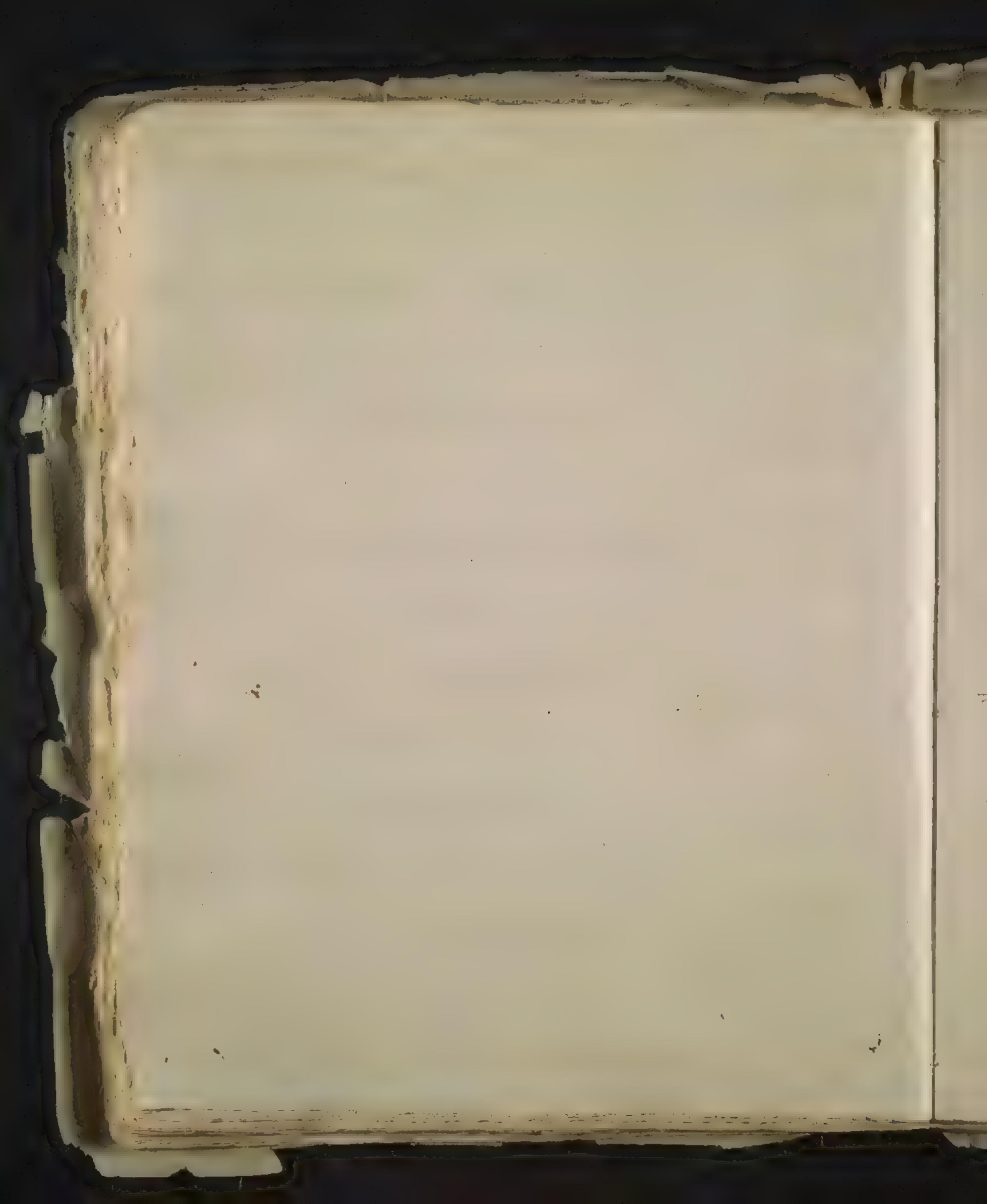
The pulmonary consumption
has been used where a belief
of its being a chronic pleurisy
~~was by~~ ^{and by} ~~the~~ ^{only use of} copious, or fre-
quent use of blood letting. Drosses
& hemorrhages have been much
used fatal since they have been
considered & treated as symptoms
of a general fever. The gout
is no longer considered as the
approach of our art. It has



yielded to the same remedies as the different states of fever. Cancer are as easily cured as any other disease. by the ~~have lately been deprived in a~~ early extirpation of tumors, in glandular parts of the ~~great degree of their own deadly~~ body.
influence upon human life by
means of a medicine which ap-
ppears to act specifically upon
the extreme vessels thereby di-
pending them to a non healthy
action. But these modern dis-
-eases have gone further. They
have taught us to renew the
motions of life where they
appeared to be extinguished by



death. Till hitherto resuscitation has been confined only to persons who have ~~died~~^{been} supposed to be dead from drowning or ^{from} other accidents. But the time I believe will come, when the labors of Science & humanity will be employed in recovering persons who appear to die from fevers many other causes. [Especially ~~from~~ ^{discoveries} few of] we are authorized to adopt this opinion root by the ~~posses~~ ^{discoveries} which have lately been made of the production ^{of} animal life by stimuli, ^{Observations &c} and by the light which, ^{dissections}



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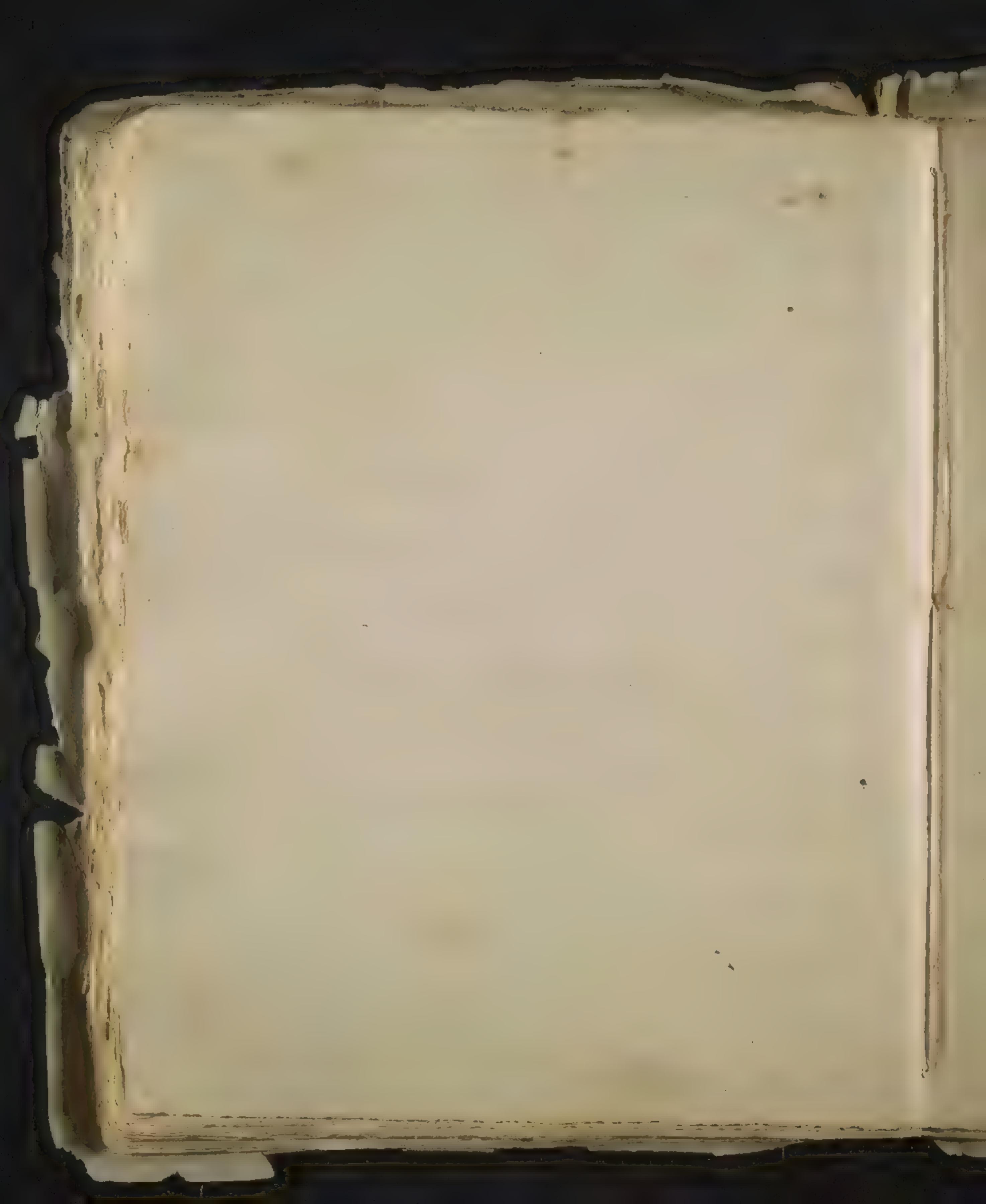
upon the external appearance of
have lately thrown upon the cause of
~~death the~~ and internal appearance
of the body after death from fevers.
involution which is one of the operations
of life, certainly takes place after
respiration ceases, and after persons
have had
who die of fevers, are supposed to be
dead. This is evident in the occurrence
of heat in
the last parts

of heat in
- cation of the postural or parts
in the absorption, & diffusion of ~~water~~^{stagnating}
of the body - in the change of the
fluids -
- consequence from a gloomy, to a
placid form, in the occasional
appearance ~~redness~~^{reddish} of a red color
in one, or in both the cheeks &
& in any the diffusion of a yellow

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color after the whole, or a part
of the body. This was frequently
observed in the yellow fever in the
year 1793 in prisons after death
who did not discover the least tinge
of yellowness upon their bodies before
they died. But this motion in the
surface of the body has gone ^{much}
further. ~~after~~ Sweats have
some times been observed to take
place for many hours, & in one
instance which several days after
death. It occurred in the case of
a lady

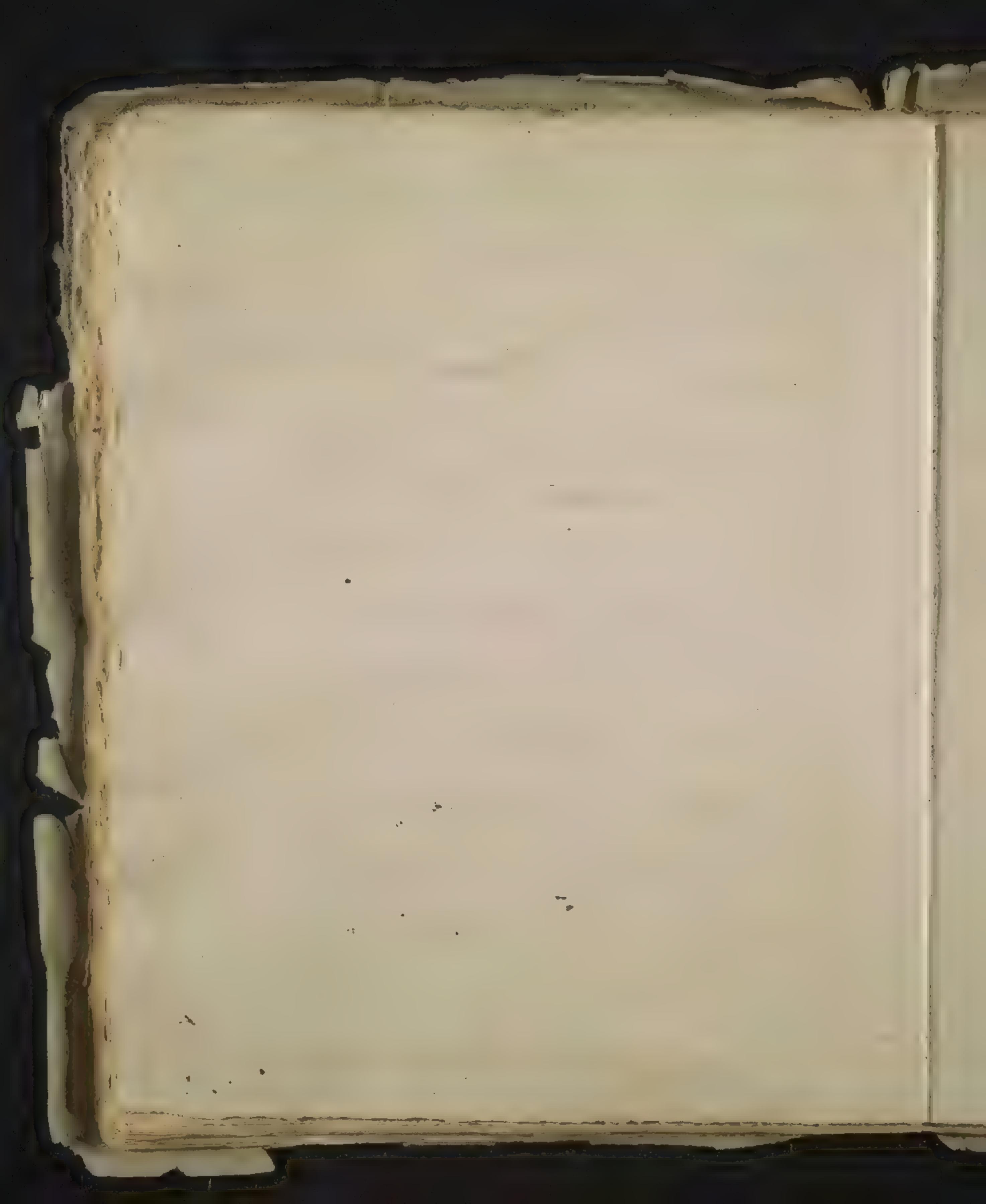
~~Miss Henry the celebrated actress~~
~~buted in tea~~
who died in this city ^{in 1794} ~~on~~



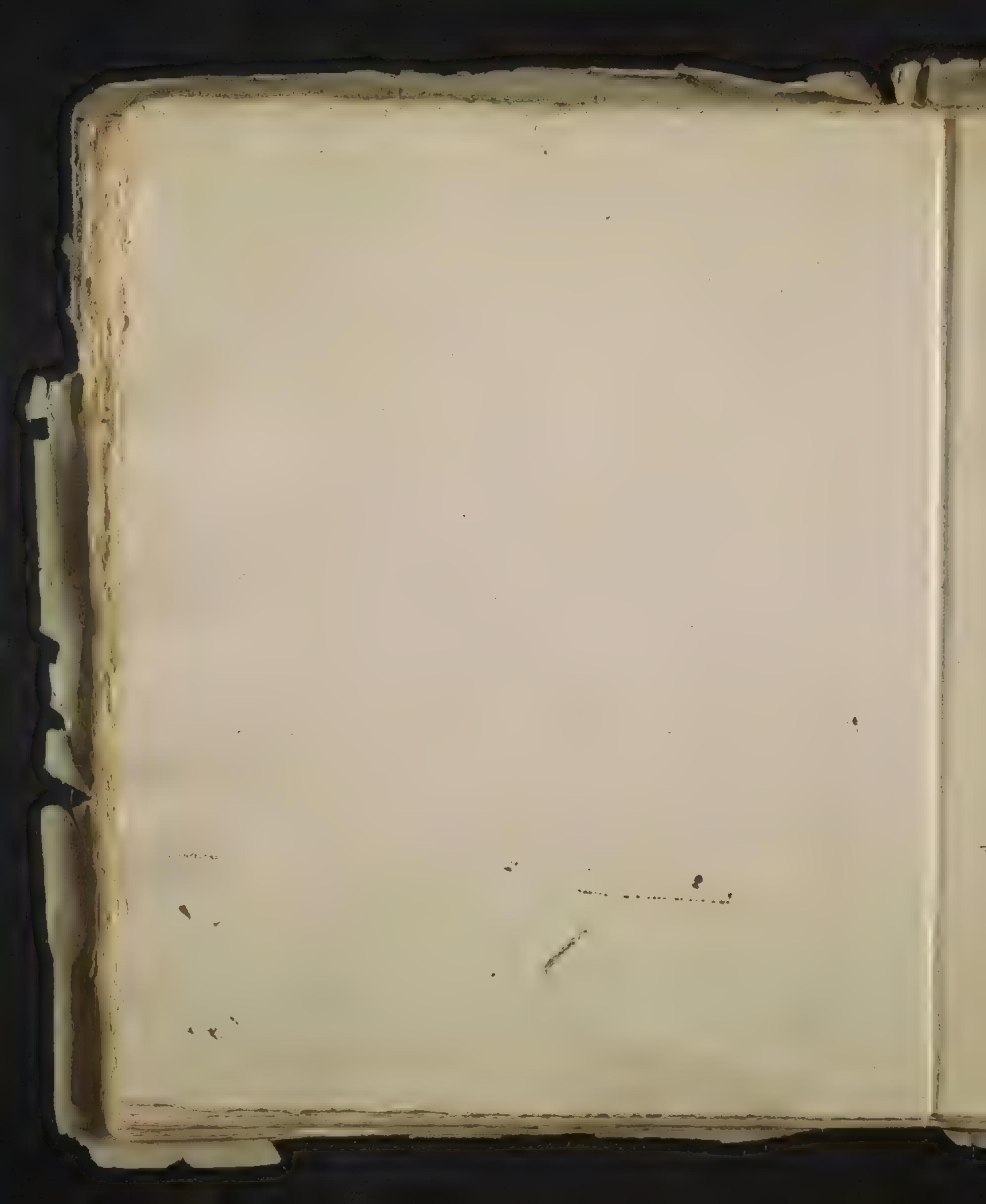
maniacal state of fever. The stiffness of the limbs which so soon succeeds death, is probably in many cases, the effect of ~~convulsions~~^{general} convulsions, and may hereafter be discovered to be nothing but a chronic spasm of the muscular system. — The intestinal appearances of the body after death from fevers, still more favours the idea of the probability of extending the benefits of resuscitation to those persons supposed to be dead from fevers. ~~long~~ⁱⁿ dissections show the signs ~~to be~~ ^{of} found

except

Death from fevers I shall say here-
 after occurs from one of the three
 following causes. ~~viz.~~^{namely} 1. The
~~disorganization of parts~~
~~blooferous or blood into organs~~
 whose actions are essential to
~~cup of mortification, congestion, pressure in~~
 life by, the effusion of blood
 flaccidation, or mortification.
 2nd from such a change in the fluids
 as renders them unfit for the
 purposes of life, and <sup>3rd from
 the total exhausted state of the excite-
 ment & excitability of the system
 which renders it incapable of
 being acted upon by the stimulus
 of medicine. Death from the</sup>



two last cures rarely occurs in acute fevers which terminate in 3, 5, 7, 9, or 11 days. Dissections show, that in nearly all cases of ~~fever~~^{death} from fevers, the viscera are in a state of inflammatory disorganization, but in many cases this disorganization is very trifling, & in some cases in which marks of long duration have appeared in the viscera during sickness, there are no appearances of disorder after death. Now in all those cases of small disorganization, or of the total absence of it, the remedies for reuscitation might probably be used with success,



for the excitement of of the system
 is suspended only, and not exhausted,
 and therefore might, by proper means.
 be ~~readily~~ easily restored. I suspect
 this ~~to be the case~~ to take place,
 in all those cases in which death
 occurs in the paroxysm of a fever,
 or in the sudden absence of fever,
 is after the use of powerful emetics
 or purges; or too stimulating diet.

Under the influence of these opi-
 -cions, I am disposed to believe
 that ^{many thousands} millions of people who have
 have been buried alive in all ages
 & in all countries. —

~~less~~ were it possible for

us to be ignorant of the waking state which necessarily follows sleep, we should consider the restoration ^{man} of a ~~human~~ ^{as created from a} sumbent posture[↑], ^{most of} prostrate state, in which all the functions of the body, & all the facultis of the mind were suspended, to account the sudden rise of ^{his} reason and limbs, as improbable an event equally impossible with the resuscitation of a body apparently dead from a fever. — pp: 35

Painted history does not inform us which of the proge-
=nitors



33

of the human race was the longest
liver, but I have sometimes
thought the survivor

In ^{the 4th vol:} of my medical
~~magaz~~ ~~is too docto~~ ~~to y lecture~~
~~years~~ ~~influi~~ & observations
of last year I mentioned an opinion

of Dr Harsley's upon the subject of
propagation of Christianity by
the advancement of medicine.

means of the science of medicine
to which I then yield my full

consent. He supposes that the
healing art will be brought to
such "perfection that infidels

into pagans & mohammedan countries
shall renounce & establish
the doctrines of Christianity by

✓ already has this prediction of Dr Hottig's
in part been fulfilled. for one

34

performing ~~similar~~³⁴ cures by
natural means, such as the
apostles performed by inspira-
tional power. — Yes — I believe
they will not only ~~use~~^{the} the
plague, and "heal all manner
of diseases", but that they will
by means equally natural,
& persons who are supposed to be
raise ~~the~~^r dead. — These tri-
umphs over sickness & the grave,
easily or cheaply
will not be accomplished without
a great expense of labor & provision
— so they will probably subject
the authors of them to the same
reproachful epithets to which

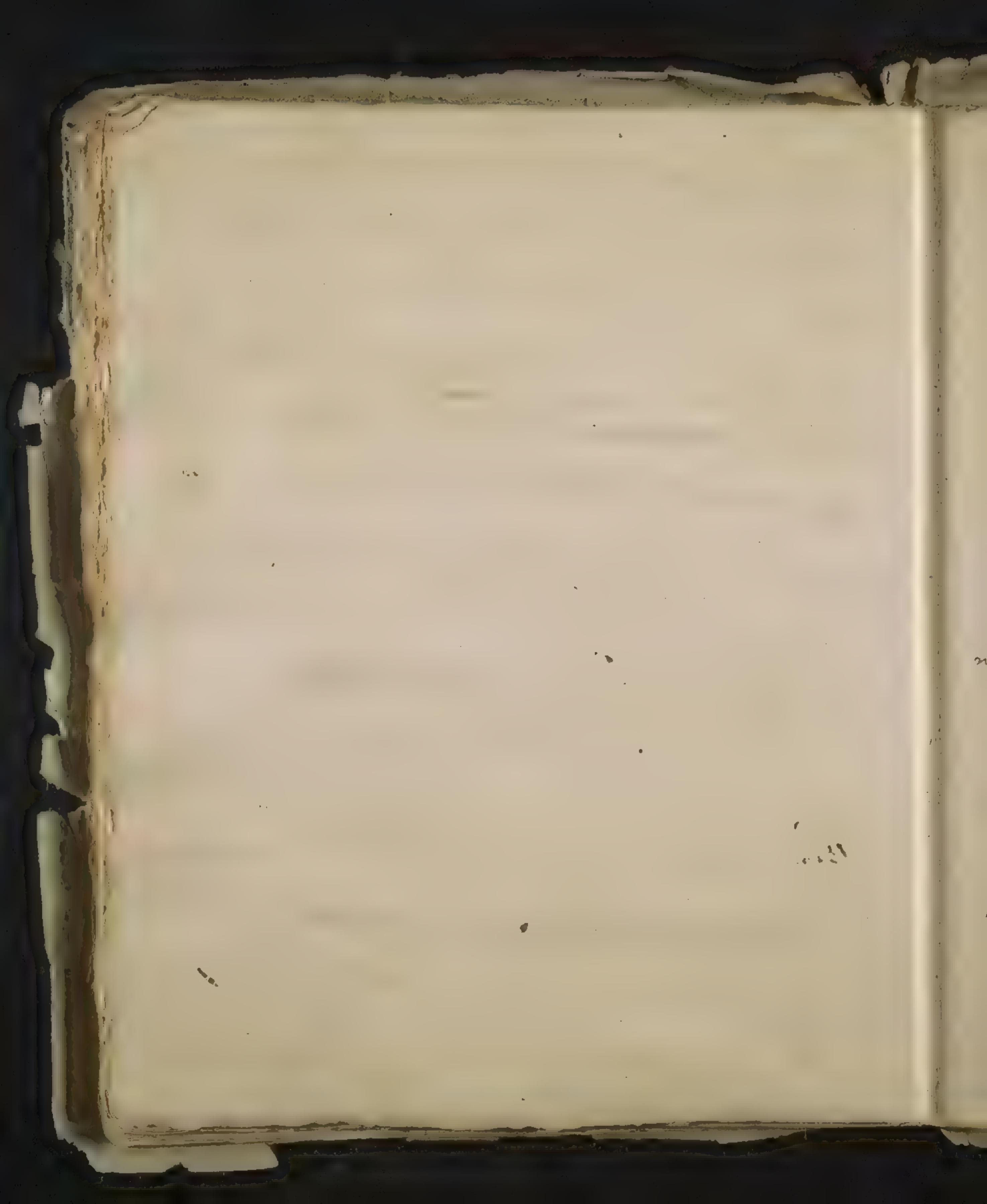


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they exposed the apostles, for they
will, ^{be} equally contrary to received
opinions & prejudices. But the
wrest
minds that shall dare to combat
from the grasp ~~the~~ of death his cold
with descend into the cold regions
of and breath less prey, shall
not have no dread of persecution.

They shall rejoice in it. -

~~In contemplating these~~
~~the~~ ^{qnt:} which I have given
~~This~~ view, of the approaching
perfection of the healing Art is not
dictated by ~~any~~ ^{no imagination} wishes ~~wanted~~
with desire for the happiness ^{alike}
my wishes alone. It is consonant
to reason and revelation: In



contemplating the delightful change
it will introduce into the state of
our world, the heart swells with
the most delighted emotions.

~~Then shall mortal~~ Epidemics
cease to desolate our cities. Hos-
pitals shall cease to be perpetual
~~sorrows~~, the groans and tears shall
prisons to the sick - Fears ~~shall~~
no longer follow & relations & friends to a
~~cease to flow~~ The lingering pains
of premature grave
of tardy grief for the premature
death of friends & relations, shall
^{then} be known no more]. Here I am
tempted to repine at the present
limited duration of human life.
Long before this ^{realization} happiness in

37

the health & happiness of mankind
shall arrive, we do you & Gent:
shall be no more. — But a con-
-solation is still left us under the
prospect of this mortifying th^t.

If we cannot share in the hap-
-piness which we have ^{desiring} anted for
our posterity, we can at least
contribute to produce it, by devo-
-ting our time & talents to the
improvement of our friends. —
we have lately shaken off an
immense load of prejudice and
error upon the subject of govern-
-ment. let us do the same thing

38

with forejudice & error in medicine.
~~Let us abandon the bumble bags~~
in which we have ~~languished~~ ^{our native} the
flock, and venture upon voyages
of circumnavigation ~~is an impossible~~
~~desire~~ many new remedies remain
yet to be ~~discovered~~, and the extent &
force of old ones, remain yet to be
determined by new experiments.

The Earth Baths of water, oil, air
and even, Earth have hitherto been
but feebly & partially applied in
diseases. We are acquainted with
but our knowledge of the extreme
force of heat, ^{& of} ~~is pasties~~ pasties in which
I include Comstics & boiling water as

v The active benefits to be derived
from a proper dissection of the
active ^{faultless} principles of the mind, &
above all particularly from the
principle of aspiration remain
yet to be examined & applied to
medicine.

39
well as ~~Spanish~~^{blisters} in exciting the system
amongst limited by habits of & forms of
prescription. Frictions, Exercise
& even labor, as remedies are
equally administered by ancient
measure. ~~Let us~~^V ~~become~~^{not} to forget
all that we learned upon these &
other articles of the ~~materia medica~~,
and take them again ~~to~~ prescribe
them in doses ~~and~~ that shall accord
with our present systems of medicine
we have too long hugged the narrow
shores of ~~ignorance & prejudice~~
in medicine -
Let us attempt a voyage of cir-
cumnavigation in medicine. The
people which has lately attended the

V and mercury while once so ~~familiar~~^{tryfying} to
sick people, has become in many families, a
common Domestic medicine. Let us be
encouraged by this

more general & copious use to ^{& recovery}
extensioⁿ of the remedys of blood letting
in malignant fevers,
~~is this city,~~ should encourage us
similar in expidity in the
to the more liberal use of other

remedies. — The prejudices against
the lancet ~~will now~~ sleep with
the fears which formerly prevailed
against cool air, & cold water in
fevers, [✓] for the same ^{as} Physicians
who a few years ago ^{with long & steep fation}
^{with hony} believed, a
stream of blood flowing from the
arm of a patient ^{with in certain fevers,}
~~it was~~ ^{very harm} because forbidden by ^F
Geller & Brown^t
now, prescribe the loss of pounds
of blood in the same fevers with
out fear, and with nearly univer-
sal success. —

To ensure the certainty that
has been predicted in medicine,
it will be necessary to investigate
and establish principles in our
science. ~~that~~ as soon as it is possible
for a Physician to attain to
the "antidiluvian age," & to add
~~acertain~~ collect facts during
the whole of that time, they
would be useful to him then
- as they were ^{combined} connected by &
arranged by means of princi-
ples of some kind. Experience
without the philosophy in

v Lenses are employed to judge between
truth & error. — connected

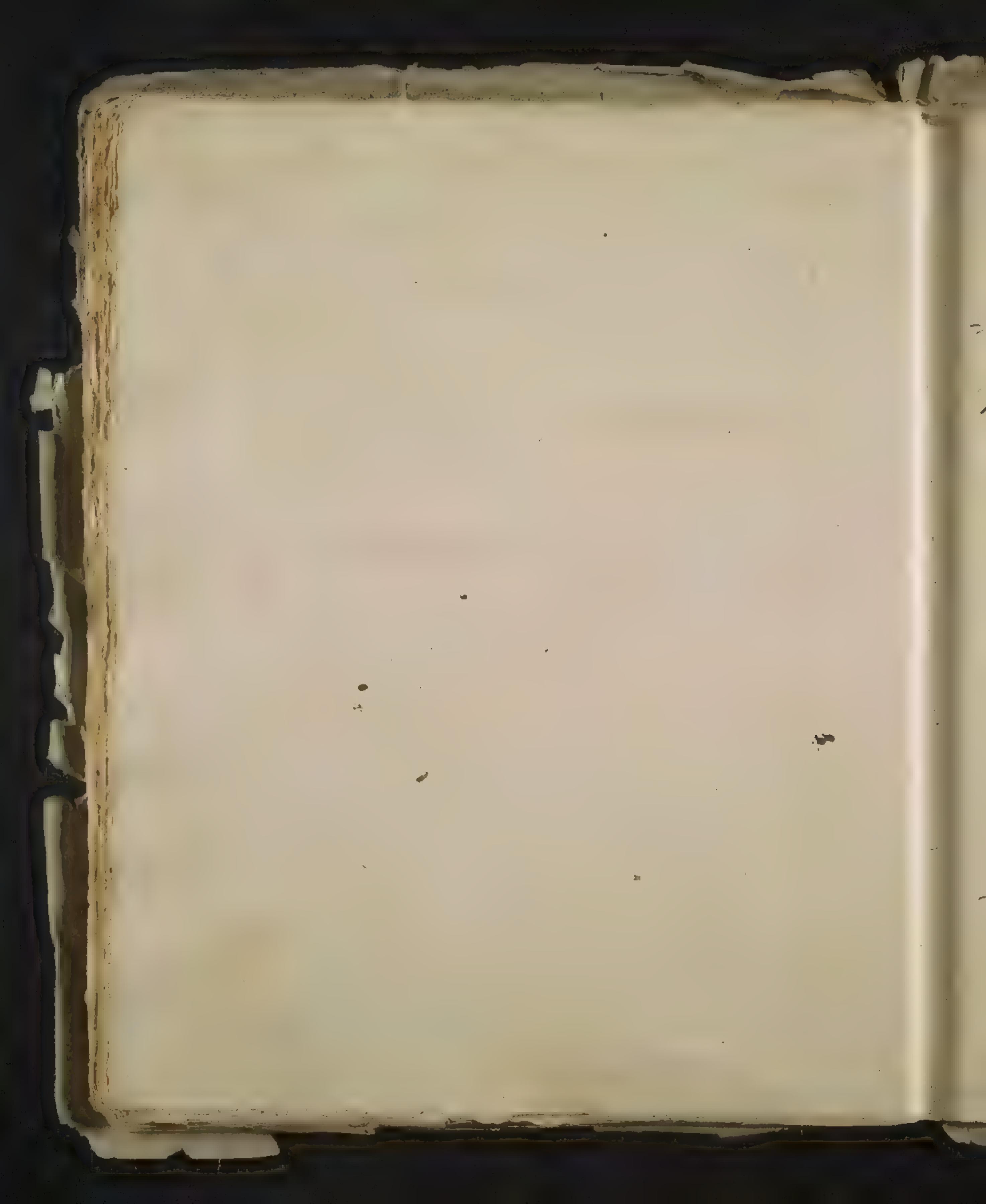
medicine, is nothing but empiricism, and however much the contradictions of theories, may be ^{or the uncertainty of human Reason in} ^{our satisfaction} ~~medicine~~ complained of, I ~~satisfactorily~~

that there are more contradictions to be met with in books upon ^{those} subjects ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ of which ~~are~~ obvious to the ~~passes~~ of ~~Physicians~~.

~~There are in all professions certain words which are used to impress upon the credulity of mankind.~~ Conscience ~~is religious,~~ honor ~~is a word,~~ and liberty ~~is a~~ have ~~been~~ long been employed ~~for assessments to be~~ ~~and been ex-~~ - ployed

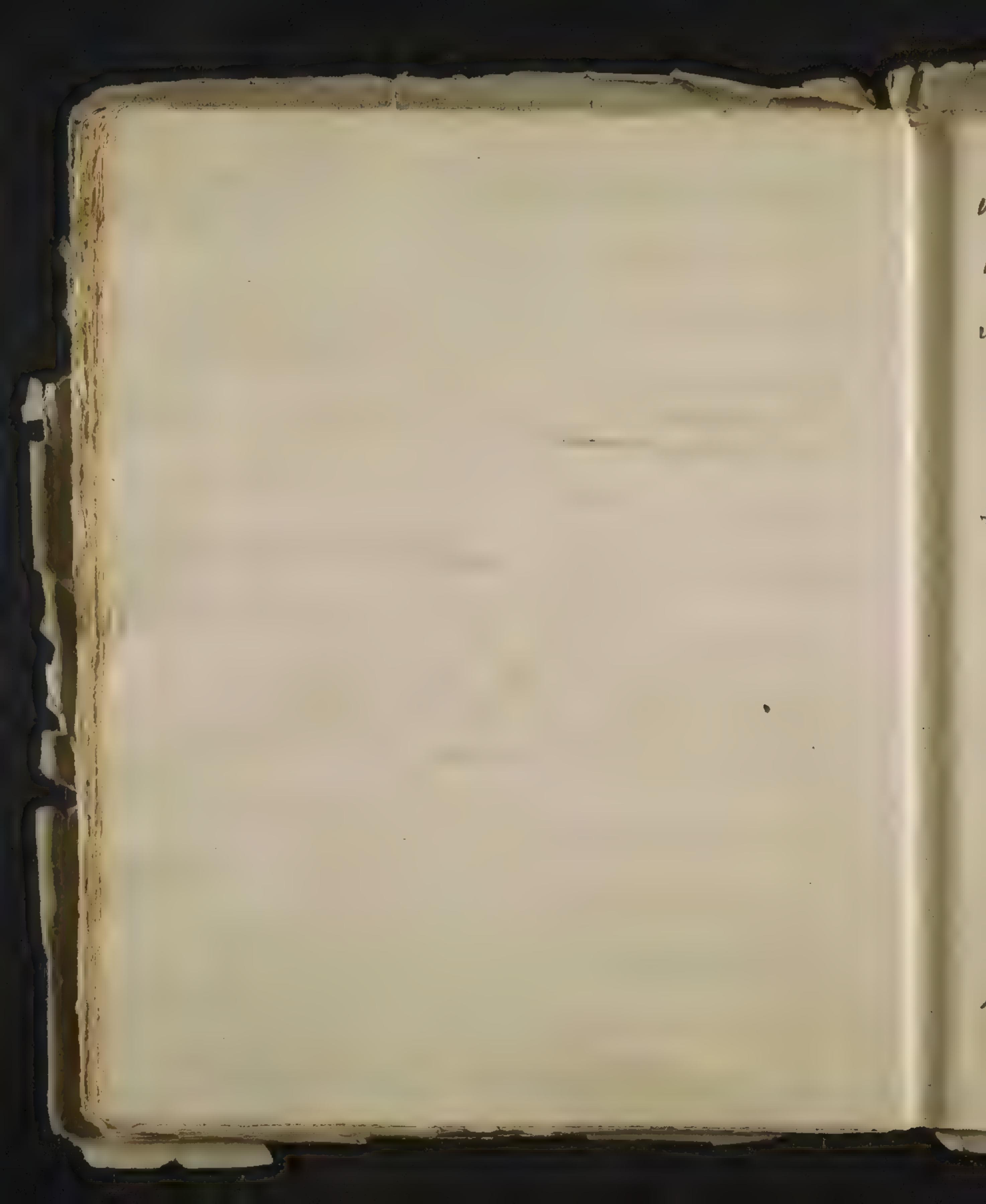
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for this purpose in religion -
was, & government. The ~~word~~
Experience has been the pros-
titute of medicine]. Connected
with theory principles, ^{the frame of medicine} it may
be compared to the stately pillars
of a magnificent building, but
without them, it resembles
the materials of the same build-
ing scattered in a confused man-
ner in a yard, so that the relation
of ^{none} ~~no one~~ of them to each other
can be known. It is by means
of principles in medicine that
a Physician can practise with



44

safety to his patients or satisfaction
to himself. — They import bold-
ness to alternately to all his
prescriptions. They inspire him
to confide the difficult
with confidence in supply the
want of experience in all new
cases. — [They elevate him above
fatigue teach him to look
down upon the basest delusions
of and pomp of ~~medicine~~^{medicine} & ~~profusion~~^{profusion}.
and regardless of ~~gracious~~^{gracious} and
importuning whether they ever
use their acts with or without
diplomas. They elevate him
above fatigue, and support
him under the druggery, mor-
tifications



45

of the profession. — Between such a Physician, and the mere plodder in medicine, there is the same difference, that there was between Sir Isaac Newton after he completed his discoveries in light & colors, and the Artist who manufactured the glasses by which illustrations ^{philosophical} that established exemplified his principles in optics. — After this account of the simplicity, & advantages of principles in medicine you will not be surprisedgent: at my declaring, that my duty and inclinations unite to

~~V.~~ But in this arduous business, I shall
not labour alone. I anticipate the
most vigorous support from my
principles from the doctrines which

will be taught from the chemical
chain of Chemistry & materia medica by my colleague

Dr. Wood:

& Dr. Barton

- house. I concur in the late Govt. association
of those gentlemen ^{the} ~~of~~ ^{their} ~~to be equal to it,~~ &
qualifications ["] ~~to be equal to it,~~ &
I am not afraid to promise forthwith
that they will not disappoint the expec-
tations of their friends & the public -

We live gent: in a revolutionary
age. Medicine has caught the spirit
of the times. The system of Dr. Boerhaave
which had subjugated the greatest part
of Europe & all America, yielded about 30
years ago to the system of Dr. Fuller. Its
~~triumph~~ was of short duration -

as far as I am able & philosophy
determines me, to teach the theory
of medicine from this Chair. I
know the difficulty of the Under-
taking. ~~This great man's~~ ^{that} ~~the~~
~~empire~~ ⁱⁿ ~~medicine~~, have
~~presently~~ ^{now} ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~already~~ ^{now} divided
lately been disputed by the ingenious Dr.
Browne ~~between the systems of Dr Brown~~
~~Brown, & Dr Brown.~~
~~of them~~
One is altogether erroneous, and
as one of them is altogether true,
It shall be my business to do
what I shall endeavor
fairly & as able, to expose
their errors, & to establish the
truths contained in ~~each~~ ^{each} of these
systems
I shall do to supply their defects
by the detail of principles which

~~Business and business, I shall not
labour alone. I anticipate ~~feast~~
a vigorous ~~instruction and support from the~~ to my principles,
~~instruction and support from the~~ ^{my former pupil}
doctrines which will be taught by ~~present~~
~~the Professors of Chemistry who will~~
~~former pupil Dr Woodhouse.~~~~

~~tomorrow I congratulate you Gent:~~
~~& the whole Republic of ~~invention~~ I know~~
~~upon his appointment. His talents~~
~~to be~~
~~His qualifications are equal to it, & he will~~
~~not afraid to promise for him that he will~~
~~not disappoint the expectations of his~~
~~friends or the public.~~

We live in a revolutionary age.
Medicine has happily caught the spirit
of the times. Dr Brown has demolished
the Systems of his immediate predecessor
Dr Cullen, ~~but~~ ^{without} substituting
a ~~better~~ better one in its room -

have been the result of the Observations, and, — I am not ashamed thus publicly to acknowledge, & of the mistakes both in principle & practice, of ~~first~~^{second} my body ~~and~~^{and now} ~~myself~~^{myself} thirty years. — ~~for this difficult~~

[But who am I, or what
were my fathers, that I should
attempt to teach new principles in
~~possessive to expose a single com-~~
~~medicine?~~
~~to establish a single truth is~~
~~good.~~

~~medicinal~~ — Ascribe not the
~~effects~~ of the undertaking, to any
~~the force~~ of its execution, to any
thing in the faculties of my mind
gent: different, or superior to
your own, but resolve it wholly

into the pleasure of that Being,
who often makes use of weak in-
struments to accomplish the
purposes of his goodness to man-
kind, in order ~~that~~^{thereby} to prevent
a competition for the honor of
such events, between his power
and the talents of his creatures.
Thus a ~~bad~~ Shepherd boy with
a sling and a stone, destroyed the
pride and strength & pride of a
formidable Army, and thereby
became the instrument of saving
a whole nation.] —

From a review of the subject

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From a review of the subject of this lecture
of this lecture, Gent: I am naturally led to conclude ~~with~~ by ad-
dressing to you a few ~~and~~ ^{with} the following reflections. —

1 ~~for~~ Has certainty been attained
in the cure of ~~any~~ diseases, & then ~~be~~ ^{of the human body;}
~~to~~ study those diseases, & their remedies
carefully, Otherwise you will be criminal in not being able to cure them.
~~These~~ ~~Pragmatists~~ are ~~not~~ always culpable

2 If certainty attainable in the cure
of all Diseases. Then renounce every
pursuit that ~~will~~ ^{can} interfere with
your studies, and endeavor to
open their mortality.
reduce the number of those diseases,

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which stillt It has long been a ^{subject of} controversy among Divines, whether perfection be attainable in morals ^{is} ~~in~~ this world. - This however this controversy may be decided, I am sure the belief of it is calculated to moral order & happiness in the world. For like manner a belief in the certainty ^{medicine} ~~or profissio~~ of medicine is calculated to promote its improvement & perfection. ^{in medicine.} ~~the perfection of our profession.~~

much of your future happiness & comfort in life gent: will depend upon the manner in which you employ the approaching season for instruction. I have heard

Dly. 8
in
R.H.Y.

~~to add~~

It said that every barrel of sugar
 manufactured in the West Indies
 costs a human life. — with equal
 certainty I fear it may be said that
^{Dly & improperly} every dollar and evening that is
 spent by a student of Physic at ~~the~~
~~place of public~~
~~Circus or theatre~~, will cost the life
 of a patient. ~~From~~ It is ^{not} my business
 to decide upon the morality or immorality
^{public} of ~~these~~ amusements, but
 as far as they employ money that
 might be applied to purchase medi-
 cal books, or time that might be
 employed in reading, or ^{studying} resolutely
 besides the subjects of the lectures of
 the day, they ~~are~~ are ^{certainly} criminal.

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52

in a
to the student of medicine. Read & think:
think - Observe - Observe - think
and read. — I submit all my opinions
to your strictest examination. I do
not ask, for may more I will not
wish them to be ^{do not}
~~admit of being their being adopted,~~
unless they are thoroughly examined,
and perfectly understood. With these
remarks, I resume the labours &
~~declaration~~ ^{I have only to}
Studies of the winter, ~~especially during~~
~~exploring the great reservoirs of men,~~
~~that it may please the Father of~~
and my best wishes that we may each of us be
~~wishes to conduct each of us to~~
conducted by the hand of heaven. This ^{of lectures} to the conclusion of our course in
the comfortable circumstances of health
& other things, in which
we have begun it. —

